

Bacteria containing eukaryotic and/or viral genes, and often having highly pleiomorphic morphology, are obtained by culturing virally-infected eukaryotic cells under aseptic, low oxygen conditions. The bacteria so produced express products encoded by the eukaryotic genes. Analyses indicate that several isolates obtained from culturing retrovirally-infected human brain capillary endothelial cells express human-specific genes previously mapped to widely separated human chromosomes.